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RUSSIA.

The Kingdom of the Czar and its
People.

A series of notable events which have been
taking place in the Russian Empire have drawn
the attention of the world in an unusual degree
to that country.

The rule of the Czar, always despotic and
severe, seems to have been increasing in stringency,
and as a consequence, the condition of
the Empire is undoubtedly restive and agitated.

Foremost among the recent acts of the Czar
has been the revival of the old restrictive laws
against the Jews, and the addition of new re-
strictions on that portion of the Russian popu-
lation.

A certain part of Russia is set apart where
the Jews are compelled to live, and all Jews
who have resided in any town or village for
less than eight years are forced, under the new
regulations, to remove into this designated
district.

No Jew can become an officer, either of the
army or of civil service. He is not admitted
to the universities. He is confined to certain
mercantile occupations, and by the new law is
forbidden to hold or own real estate, or to have
it mortgaged to him.

It is stated that the new restrictions, added
to the old ones, will deprive two millions of
the four millions of Russian Jews of the means
of earning their living.

These startling facts have aroused indignation
throughout the civilized world, and in
some instances great public meetings have
been held to protest against the persecution
by law of such an immense number of human
beings.

Another act of the Russian Government has
been to curtail the ancient liberties of Finland,
which is under the rule of the Czar as a
conquered nation.

The Finns are a sturdy, honest race, and
have hitherto enjoyed a large degree of political
freedom. But the Czar and his coun-
sellors have, of late, shown a disposition to re-
duce them also to the same iron rule which
holds the rest of the Russian dominions as in
a vise.

The condition of the Russian peasantry is
described by Stepnaik, a Russian exile now
on a visit to this country, and a writer of note
upon Russian subjects, as being deplorable.

He states that the mortality of the peasantry
in some Russian provinces, reaches the annual
rate of sixty-two in a thousand, which is three
times the rate of some American cities; and
that the cause of this large death-rate is the
want of food.

The peasantry, according to this authority,
have to pay one-half of their incomes in satisfy-
ing the demands of the Government. As a
result they have had to mortgage their little
plots of land in order barely to exist.

There seems, in view of these facts, to be no
reason for astonishment that the state of the
Empire is one of unrest and discontent, or that
we continue to hear of plots and violent at-
tempts of revolutionists against the Czar's life
and authority. The murder of a prominent
Russian General in Paris, formerly connected
with the police, and the killing in Moscow of
a lady of rank, who is supposed to have be-
trayed the secrets of the Nihilists, are evi-
dences of the continued existence of a formid-
able conspiracy against the Government.

In December five Nihilists, several of them
young women, were tried at St. Petersburg for
engaging in a plot against the Czar, and all
but one were sentenced to death. Mean-
while the Czar has surrounded himself con-
stantly with every precaution, to defend him
from the deadly assault of assassins.

It is well for us not to accept implicitly all
the statements that are made concerning the
tyranny and cruelty of Russia. Yet we can-
not shut our eyes to the fact that they are
guilty of many acts of oppression which re-
volt the civilized world, and the natural result
is to create, in Russia itself, widespread dis-
content and resistance.—Youth's Companion.

BRITISH TRAMPS.

The finest thoughts of many great think-
ers are undoubtedly the more or less direct
result of their communion with the out-
door world, its strengthening winds and
healing sunshine. Certain men of incal-
culable influence over ideas and morals
have been constant lovers of country walks
and it would be difficult to over-estimate
the effect of such solitary rambles on their
habits of thought.

It is calculated that Wordsworth, in his
many years of sauntering, must have tra-

velled a distance of one hundred and eighty
thousand miles. What sights he saw dur-
ing such prolonged and delightful wander-
ings, only those who have the poet's mind
and eye can even guess.

Charles Dickens was a confirmed tramp,
and no doubt acquired his experience of
"life on the road" from actual acquaint-
ance with all sorts of vagabonds and odd
characters, such as frequent town and
country lanes and highways.

One of the most remarkable of unprofes-
sional walkers was Prof. Wilson, the
"Christopher North" of literature. His
fine physique and great endurance prompt-
ed him to the performance of wonderful
feats, which seemed to him entirely a mat-
ter of course. He once walked forty miles
in eight hours, and at another time walked
from Liverpool to Elleray in twenty-four
hours, a distance of eighty miles. It is
good to think of the long, unwearied strides
with which he swung along, his blood
bounding with healthy pulses, and sending
invigorating waves to the active brain.

Henry Fawcett, also, was a tireless
walker, and one who, when deprived of
sight, did not for a moment think of relin-
quishing this among many forms of exer-
cise. He was a familiar figure on the roads
about Cambridge, and there is no exaggera-
tion in saying that few men blessed with all
their senses could enjoy nature more thor-
oughly than he.

Southey, worn and preyed upon by men-
tal application and the practical anxieties
of everyday life, found his greatest relief
in tramping about the country, listening for
what nature had to tell him, and learning
contentment from her stability. John
Stuart Mill delighted in pedestrian tours,
and Charles Lamb, though he loved town
better than country, was one who believed
in sweeping cobwebs from the brain by
brisk and continuous walking.

All these men walked not merely for
profit, but for pleasure; and the profit-
ableness of the exercise was the greater be-
cause of their pleasure in it. Their example
may be commended to all. It is safe to say
that whoever once forms the habit of regular
tramping will never forego it, except under
some necessity.

The Mountain of Silicate.

The mountain of silicate which is reported
to be found in Canada and likely to revolu-
tionize the manufacture of glass of all kinds,
is as yet in the realms of supposition, as of
course, no one has excavated deeply enough
to absolutely know how far within the moun-
tain the silicate may extend, despite the opin-
ions of geologists, as those gentlemen have
been proven to be not always accurate in their
calculations or the application of the laws of
geology as they are known at this day. This
has been especially displayed in the mistakes
they have made in regard to probable finds of
petroleum, both the Pennsylvania and Ohio
fields having been heavily discounted by the
best geologists in the land, just as they are
now discounting the future of the natural gas
fields. Nature has of late presented many
anomalies against the well defined principles
that learned scientists have laid down for her,
and all signs may fail in regard to the silicate
mountain. The design of the owners not to
let it get into the hands of any syndicate, is a
good one, whether the find prove all that is ex-
pected of it or not, and for the benefit of this
country in its proximity to Canada as well as
for the good of Canadians themselves, we
hope that the outcome may prove as valuable
as the enthusiasts now suppose.—Paint, Oil
and Drug Review.

DEMOCRACY AND INDUSTRIAL FEDERATION.

But, I shall be told, you cannot regulate
industry on a public foundation in a day.
Where are the organs, the functionaries,
equal to such a task? Where is the political
honesty, the sincere and large-minded
patriotism, without which a resumption of
state rights would issue in speculation and
jobbery? My answer is that if democratic
institutions cannot develop such men and
such qualities they are doomed by inherent
worthlessness to corruption and decay.

But they can and will, for the social prob-
lem, which is at bottom that of transform-
ing slaves (by whatever name called) into
free and independent citizens, has arrived
at its present stage under Divine guidance,
and we are not lapsing through capitalism
into the lower conditions from which we
have escaped, but are passing onward to
federation as the crowning task of democ-
racy.—Rev. William Barry in March
Forum.

THE LAND OF THE JAP.

A Strange Country and a Strange
People.

Japan is a land of contraries. Everything
in that country is performed in exactly the
opposite manner to which we, of the West-
ern hemisphere, are accustomed. When
your cook bakes a cake in an ordinary cake
tin it is as certain that, if left to himself, he
will serve it bottom upward. Japanese
books begin at what we call the end. The
lines are vertical instead of horizontal, the
first being at the right hand edge of the
pane and are read downward from the top.
Letter writing, like book printing, advances
by vertical lines from right to left, and is
always on one side of one strip of paper,
which is unwound from a roll as the writer
proceeds, and out off where he finishes. To
fold the letter it is doubled over and over
from one end of the strip to the other.

The postage stamp is affixed on the closed
seal-flap of the envelope, instead of on its
face. As for the modes of address, it is the
exact reverse of ours. People in Japan are
called by the family name first, the indi-
vidual, or what we should call Christian,
name next, and then the honorific. "Mr.
Peter Smith" is in that country "Smith
Peter Mr." The carpenter planes and saws
toward instead of from him, yet his feats of
planing are extraordinary. Japanese screws
are left handed, and Japanese locks "work
the wrong way." At games of cards the
dealer deals to the right, and the play goes
round in the same direction. When travel-
ing you see the hotel servants soon after
your arrival instead of your departure.

Arrows are launched from the right side
of the bow. Babies are carried on the back
instead of in the arms. Candles are blown
out with the hand or a fan instead of by the
breath. The bookkeeper enters his money
figures first, his items below them. In
place of the hot food and cold drinks in
which we indulge at our dinners and lun-
cheons, the Japanese lean to cold food and
hot drinks. Sweets make their appearance
early in the repast. Your host takes the
lowest place. Crests are worn on the cloth-
ing, instead of being graven or painted on
the household goods. Horses are mounted
from the right side, where also are all the
harness fastenings. The mane is trained
over the left side. In the stable the horse
looks outward from his stall, and is fed
from a bucket instead of a manger. The
sail cloths in Japanese craft are vertical in-
stead of horizontal, and laced instead of
sewn.

Strange, too, in other respects are the
ways of Japanese boatmen. They tow their
stern foremost and also haul them up stern
foremost on the beach. In cold weather,
even though on their muscular and splen-
didly shaped bodies there be hardly enough
clothing to swear by, you may at least be
sure of their taking infinite pains to wrap
up, of all features, their noses. In house
building the roof is the first part con-
structed, only to be taken to pieces again
until the structure is ready for it; and the
best rooms, as well as the garden, are com-
monly at the back instead of the front.

Japanese bathe in the afternoon or even-
ing instead of at rising, as we do. Small
children, who have a propensity to stray-
ing, are safeguarded by the simple precau-
tion of hanging labels around their necks,
which give their names and addresses.

A Japanese is said to be one year old on
the last day of the year in which he is born;
two years old on the very next day—the
first day of the new year; three years old
on the succeeding New Year's day and so
on. Hence we find the curious anomaly
that a child born on the 31st day of Decem-
ber is two years old the day after its birth.
Japanese count of time differs from ours.
From Tuesday to Friday is called four
days instead of three, and year periods are
similarly spoken of. For pocket handker-
chiefs the Japanese use little squares of
clean paper, a bundle of which is carried in
the girdle. Paper, again, takes the place of
staining, as you find out when the shopman
ties together your purchases with a binding
deftly rolled up from a strip of paper before
your eyes. Paper also is commonly used
for window panes in Japan, alone of all
countries in the world. As for Japanese
beckoning, the gesture resembles a warning
to be off instead of an invitation to advance.
Two jinrikishas are approaching each other
at speed. One of the men waves his hand
to the right or left, and you take it as a sig-
nal of the course which the other fellow is

to follow. But you are in Japan, where it
means, instead, the side he himself intends
to take.

A POOR LITTLE MONARCH.

The Sad Life and Troubles of Ser-
via's Boy Ruler.

While the infant sovereigns of Spain and
the Netherlands are jealously tended by
mothers who, independently of their feel-
ings of maternal devotion, are impelled to
particular watchfulness by the knowledge
that the death of their children would be at
once followed by loss of rank, wealth and
power, and by a probable expulsion from
the country, the poor little King of Serbia
is passing his boyhood in solitude. No
mother is permitted to smooth his pillow,
to greet him with affection in the morning
and to kiss him good night. He is left
alone to face the dangers which surround
him, and they are many in number. His
father's predecessor on the throne of Serbia
was murdered in cold blood by the Kara-
georgewitch pretenders, who are as eager
for the throne to-day as they were then, and
who have even far more to gain now by the
death of Alexander than by the assassina-
tion of Milosh 25 years ago. Moreover, the
kidnapping of Prince Alexander of Bulgaria
in the middle of the night by Russian em-
bassaries affords another demonstration of the
perils to which Balkan rulers are exposed.

The domestic troubles which led to his
parents' divorce and to his father's abdic-
ation in his favor have resulted in his being
debarred from seeing his mother, except on
rare occasions, notwithstanding the fact
that she resides within one hundred yards
of his palace gates. Every effort is being
made by her enemies in general and by her
husband in particular to influence the lad
against her, and only the other day he
was induced by his father to write her a let-
ter in which he declares that he will break
off all relations with her if she persists in
submitting to parliament the disputed
question as to the legality of the divorce
which Milan, by improper methods, secured
against her. Queen Natalie's reply to her
child, to whom she is devotedly attached, is
worthy of being placed on record. It runs
thus:

"I would give much if you had not writ-
ten that letter, my boy. But as I know who
made you write it I excuse. For twelve
years I taught you to love your father, and
to honor him, and concealed the misery of
my life from you. Had King Milan seen
the situation clearly he would have done as
much for me. This must show you how
different are your parents' characters. If I
appeal to the skuptchina I merely make use
of my good right. If you fulfill your threat
you will lose the respect of your people and
of the whole civilized world. Kings are
expected to have hearts as well as other
people. The nation will say: 'He has no
heart for his mother—he will have no heart
for us.'"

Fire Brick Making.

The recent large increase in the fire brick
making industry in the United States is ex-
plained by the fact that it is the largest iron-
producing country in the world. Great Brit-
ain has fallen behind chiefly because of the
shutting down of the furnaces in the West
of Scotland, and the United States has a conse-
quence taken the lead, its output last year be-
ing a trifle over 84 per cent of the entire world
production. The following are the figures in
tons:

	1890.	1889.
United States.....	9,050,000	7,603,642
Great Britain.....	7,950,000	8,322,324
Germany.....	4,550,000	4,524,750
France.....	1,800,000	1,722,480
Other countries.....	3,200,000	3,000,000

"Other countries" include Belgium, Austria,
Russia, Sweden, Spain, Italy, Canada, and
India. In the last ten years the production in
the United States has increased about two and
a half times, that of Great Britain has remained
nearly stationary, Germany has increased one-
third, France augmented slightly, and the ag-
gregate of the remainder has grown one-half.

A Workman Did It.

A calker in a Boston ship yard, working
as a supernumerary at \$1.50 per day, has
invented a calking machine with which one
man can do the work of six. Nearly every
laboring man has been invented by
laboring men, strange as it may seem.—De-
troit Free Press.

TRUE TO HIS WORD.

A NOVEL.

CHAPTER XXXVIII.—Continued.

'It seems to me that the signora has fallen in love with our young Englishman,' laughed Corbara.

Joanna's cheek lost all its paleness for an instant as the words met her ear; but she answered nothing, only looked with passionate appeal towards her brother.

'Indeed, Joanna,' answered he, 'such a proposal as yours seems to me to excuse a man's saying almost anything. These Englishmen are the common property of us all, and though it is true the signora was given to yourself, yet she was set free with a view to benefit you. You would have had a fair share of the ransom had it been obtained, but it has not been obtained, and it is no fault of ours that the retaliation we intend to take for its non-arrival will not afford you gratification.'

'Gratification!' echoed she. 'When these men are dead—to-morrow or the next day—will the recollection of your cruelties be worth to you three hundred thousand ducats? That the money has not arrived is not their fault, but yours. If you had sent some responsible person to manage the affair instead of a dying woman you would have all been rich men by this time. Why for all you know, she may never have reached the city alive, much more in a condition to settle matters with the bankers. Ask Santoro there, who helped to take her down to the village, whether she looked more dead or alive.'

'The signora was very weak and ill, no doubt,' said Santoro. 'It was my belief that she would not get over the journey.'

'And yet you intrusted this important affair to such an envoy,' continued Joanna. 'One would think that three hundred thousand ducats was a sum as easily extracted as the ransom of a village mayor.'

'It is doubtless a large sum,' observed Corrali; 'and since it has not been paid the forfeit will be made proportionate.'

'Yes; but it would have been paid had you gone the right way about it; and if you are not all mad or thirsting for blood you may have it yet.'

'What you say is doubtless very true, Joanna,' replied Corrali; 'but unless you have something else to propose to us than to have patience—'

'I have something else to propose,' interrupted she; 'I suggest that the error which you committed in sending a dying woman to negotiate so important an affair shall be repaired. Let another envoy be chosen, who will not let the grass grow under his feet. This young Englishman understands milord's affairs, being his friend.'

'It seems to me, captain, that there really is something in this,' observed Santoro. 'Something, yes,' laughed Corbara; 'and it is easy enough to see what it is, so far as the signora is concerned.'

'If we send him on this embassy,' said Corrali, 'what guarantee should we have that we shall ever see him again? If he gets to Palermo he will pay us neither in purse nor person.'

'That is clear as the sunshine,' observed Corbara; 'there will be but one prisoner left to us out of three and not a single ducat.'

'That is so,' murmured a dozen voices. Even Santoro was obliged to acknowledge the correctness of this arithmetic.

'You shall not lose the ducats,' answered Joanna. 'In case the young man does not return on the appointed day I will pay his ransom out of my own purse.'

'You must be mad, Joanna,' cried Corrali.

'On the contrary, it is you that are mad, Rocco, who will risk nothing when there is a prospect of gaining so much. I see plainly that by this plan we shall gain all we have looked for, and I am not blinded by passion like some of you.'

'By Heaven, I am not sure of that!' muttered Corrali.

'At all events, my friends, you will have the three thousand ducats to do what you please with,' said Joanna; 'and if one of you should win it all at baccara he will have a fortune.'

'I like that idea, I confess,' observed Colleta, who had great luck at cards.

'In order that there may be no doubt about the matter, my friends,' said Joanna, 'you shall have the three thousand ducats at once. Santoro knows where they are kept, and shall go with any one of you to fetch them this very moment.'

Walter had listened to these proceedings with intense interest, but even when the moment had apparently arrived for his being put to cruel tortures, he had scarcely been more moved than when he heard the generous proposal of his late hostess. While it was in debate he had uttered not a syllable, lest he should do it prejudice; but now that matters had declared themselves in his favor he addressed the brigand chief as follows: 'I am fully aware, Captain,

Corrali, of the great kindness which your sister has shown me and of the generosity of the offer she has made; it is impossible for me to over-rate the confidence she has reposed in me; but you may be certain of this, that it is not misplaced. If I am alive I shall return to you at any reasonable date you may please to fix, either with my ransom or without it.'

'And with your friend the milord's ransom,' put in the captain quickly. 'It is on that account that we give you permission to depart.'

Joanna was about to speak, but Corrali stopped her angrily: 'You have got your way, woman, and be content with it. The arrangement of the rest of the affair remains in my hands. To-day is Tuesday. You will understand then at this hour, at eight o'clock in the morning you will present yourself on this very spot on Friday.'

'The time is very short,' pleaded Walter, 'since there may be much to be done.'

'Then we will say eight o'clock in the evening, which will give you twelve hours more. At eight o'clock next Friday evening then we shall know whether an Englishman can be trusted to keep his word or not. If the word of an Englishman should fail, that of a Sicilian will not; I mean it.'

'O Walter, Walter, you are not going to leave me!' cried the old merchant, perceiving that his friend was about to depart.

'I shall come back again, Mr. Brown; I shall indeed.'

'No, no; you will never do that!' exclaimed the other.

'I will, sir. So Heaven help me! as I am a Christian man and a gentleman, I will return, either to set you free or to die with you. There is some hitch about the ransom, and I am going to Palermo to expedite matters. Don't fret, sir; all will be well yet, thanks to this generous lady.'

'But what has made the woman so civil to us?' inquired the merchant.

'She has a kind heart; it was she who sent the bread and mutton when you were half starved the other day.'

'But she carries—'

'Hush! yes; never mind. I must go now, for every minute is precious. Is it possible that anything should be added to the authorization you sent by Lillian?'

'Nothing; it was quite in form. Still I will write one line if these wretches will give me pen and paper.'

Corrali produced the necessary implements and the merchant wrote: 'Spare no expense and trust implicitly the bearer; (signed) CHRISTOPHER BROWN.' 'Give my dear love to Lillian, and should I never see her again nor you—'

'You will see me again this day week,' interrupted Walter; he thought it base to take advantage of such an opportunity, though it was evident that the merchant had been about to couple his name with Lillian's.

'Good bye, sir, for the present and be of good courage.'

'Farewell, Walter, farewell; and God be with you!' answered the old man.

'Amen!' replied Walter solemnly.

Then the members of the band, with the exception of Corbara, who stood apart, flocked round him to bid him good bye; the same hands which had been ready to inflict death upon him an hour ago, being now held forth to him with good will. Corrali alone was grave.

'You will not misunderstand your countryman's position here because of all this,' said he, alluding to these manifestations of friendship.

'Neither his nor my own,' answered Walter. 'I know there is no mercy to be expected for either of us in case the ransom is not forthcoming.'

'And yet you will keep your word?'

'And yet I shall keep my word.'

The captain smiled incredulously as he held out his hand. 'Santoro here will be your guide to Palermo—and back again, if you ever do come back.'

Then Walter looked about him for Joanna, for whom he had reserved some heartfelt expressions of gratitude; but both she and Levocca had disappeared. He was distressed at this, yet at the same time was conscious of a sense of intense relief. He felt that Corbara had been right in imputing to the chief's sister a personal affection for himself, which it was impossible he could reciprocate.

CHAPTER XXXIX.

SIR REGINALD TAKES HIS OWN VIEW.

As Walter descended the mountain, accompanied by Santoro, his reflections did not permit him to pay much attention to the incidents of the way; when, now and then, his companion bade him listen, in fear that they were approaching the troops, who would certainly have shot them both without waiting for an explanation, he stopped and listened; but for the most part his own thoughts preoccupied him, and he only knew

that the direction in which he was advancing so rapidly was towards Palermo. The sense of sudden freedom did not occur to him with the force it had done when standing in front of the cavern, for he was even less free now than he had been then; but the question whether he should have his freedom eventually agitated his mind perpetually.

'Stop, signor; there go the soldiers,' said Santoro; and on the road which had last come into view before them could be seen through the trees a considerable body of troops moving towards the city.

'The cordon must be loosening,' observed Santoro, 'unless these men have been relieved. Now is the time to get money up to the camp if we could only know where it was.'

This was clear enough; and Walter was for pushing on at increased speed; but Santoro bade him pause lest there should be more soldiers returning home and they should find themselves between two detachments. The wisdom of this advice was made evident within the next quarter of an hour by the appearance of another body of men almost as large as that which had preceded it.

'The troops have been recalled,' murmured Santoro triumphantly. 'The governor has grown tired of hunting us with the troops and the road for the ransom is now clear.'

'Let us hope so,' answered Walter fervently; 'but is it not possible that they have intercepted it?'

It was not unusual in similar cases for the Government to direct its division among the troops, for though it made feeble efforts to put down the brigands, it was high-handed enough in its measures respecting the illegal payment of the ransoms of their victims.

'No, no; the soldiers would have talked and sung as they went by had they had any success. Take my word for it, they have given up the whole thing and have gone home in disgust.'

At all events Walter and his companion met with no further hindrance and reached Palermo before dusk. Santoro, it was agreed, should not enter the city in his company; and the gate of the English burial ground having been fixed upon as a place of rendezvous every evening in case they should wish to communicate with one another, for the present they parted.

In the first place, it was absolutely necessary for Walter that he should seek his own lodgings on the Marina. Unshaven and scorched with the sun, he looked more like a native beggar than the young English gentleman who had embarked in pursuit of the Syphide some fifteen days ago. Baccari, who was standing at his house door, did not even move aside as he approached, but regarded him with no very favorable expression.

'I have nothing for you,' said he, anticipating from this able-bodied but dilapidated stranger an application for alms.

'What! Baccari, has a fortnight's stay with Captain Corrali then so altered your old lodger?'

In a moment the honest little fellow had thrown himself about Walter's neck.

'Thanks be to Heaven and all the saints,' cried he, 'that you have returned alive! Come in, come in! What a spectacle do I behold! Nothing has happened like it since my neighbor Loffredo's case. O the villains, the scoundrels! Welcome home! A bath? Of course you desire a bath. I recognize you for an Englishman by that request, though otherwise you might be a countryman of my own and not one of the most respectable.'

Walter explained that he had come to effect the payment of his ransom.

'Ah, the ransom! Well yesterday I should have said you would have had but a bad chance, even supposing that you have the means of raising the money. But to day the soldiers have been recalled, since Corrali and his men have taken their departure towards Messina.'

'But the young lady—Mr. Brown's daughter—you tell me nothing of her.'

'Well, my dear young sir, there is but little to tell; no one has seen her since she was brought home to the hotel yonder, more dead than alive, except her sister and Julia.'

'Who is Julia?'

'Oh! that is the waiting maid whose services have been secured for her.'

'For Heaven's sake, tell me about the young lady? Is she worse or better? Is she in danger?'

'I don't know about danger, but she is still very ill, and unfortunately wandering in her mind. The sun was too much for her during that noontide journey, and she was ill before. My good sir, where are you going? It is out of the question that she should be able to see you.'

'Then I must see Sir Reginald,' said Walter; 'it is upon a matter that does not admit of a moment's delay.'

'Well, if it is about milord's freedom and the ransom,' observed Baccari, 'you may consider that as a public topic. Every one is talking about it; some say one thing and some another, but I can tell you this much—'

that Sir Reginald and the rest of them have been going the wrong way to work to procure your countryman's freedom; and not only the wrong way, but the very way to prevent it. Let the gold be put in a box and carried out at night up to Corrali's camp; then milord will come down in the morning. Whereas to send troops after these gentry is the way to make them flit from hillside to hillside, take their prisoner with them until one day they get tired and kill him.'

'That is precisely my own view of the matter,' answered Walter, and he took up his hat and turned his steps to the hotel, which was but a few paces off. On arriving at the hotel, notwithstanding that such a proceeding might of itself enrage Sir Reginald against him, he asked to see Miss Lillian Brown. The porter, however, accustomed to continual inquiries upon the part of the British residents after her health, misunderstood his words and replied that the young lady's condition was slightly improving, but that she had not yet recovered her senses. This was as bad as anything Walter could have expected, and of course put a stop to any idea of an interview.

'I wish to see her brother-in-law, Sir Reginald Selwyn,' observed he, 'upon business of great importance.'

'Very good, sir. This way if you please.' 'It is unnecessary to give my name,' said he; 'you may say an old acquaintance from England.'

It was nearly a quarter of an hour before Sir Reginald made his appearance, expecting doubtless to see some casual London acquaintance, who, finding him at Palermo, had dropped in for an evening call.

His countenance changed directly he set eyes on Walter; he did not seem so much surprised as annoyed and disappointed; his look of conventional welcome at once gave place to one of dislike and suspicion.

'This is an unexpected pleasure, Mr. Litton,' said he, pointing to a chair.

'You knew I was in Palermo, Sir Reginald, or at least that I had been so?'

The baronet hesitated: 'Yes; I have heard so.'

'And also that I had been taken prisoner by the brigands in company with your father-in-law, who is still unhappily in their hands?'

'I did not hear that you were in his company when taken prisoner; I had reason to suppose that such would hardly have been the case.'

'I was made captive, Sir Reginald, not in Mr. Brown's company, but in the attempt to give the alarm while there was yet time; I hoped to effect his release by force of arms. That time is unfortunately past; and it is my duty to inform you that if immediate steps are not taken to pay his ransom his life will be forfeited.'

'That is what Captain Corrali says, I suppose,' observed Sir Reginald.

'He has said so, and he will without doubt keep his word. If within four days the whole three hundred thousand ducats are not in his hands—'

'Why, that is fifty thousand pounds!' interrupted Sir Reginald; 'a modest sum to be asked for by a highwayman.'

'But is it possible that I am telling you this for the first time?' exclaimed Walter. 'Did not Miss Lillian tell you with what mission she was charged?'

'My sister-in-law was brought to the city in a dangerous condition, quite unfit to attend to any matters of business.'

'Business! But this is an affair that concerns her father's life. Do you mean to tell me that she never gave you the authorization for the payment of the money, which I saw Mr. Brown write out with his own hand?'

'I have seen no such document,' answered the baronet. 'As to the enormous sum you have mentioned, it is true that she has spoken of it more than once. She has been wandering in her mind ever since her return.'

'The sum is perfectly correct, Sir Reginald, and not a ducat less will be taken by the brigand chief. It is the price of Mr. Brown's life, and of my life also (though I do not wish to speak of that), since I have promised to return either with or without it within four days.'

'Excuse me, Mr. Litton,' said Sir Reginald, 'if I recommend that you should take some rest and refreshment before you speak any more on the topic. It evidently excites you, and if you have just escaped from these scoundrels' hands you are hardly fit to judge of them dispassionately.'

'Sir Reginald, I am as cool and collected as yourself; I have told you nothing which is not true. Your father-in-law will be put to death if you turn a deaf ear to what I say.'

'I scarcely think you are quite aware of what you say, Mr. Litton,' answered the other; 'you just expressed your resolve to return in person to these gentry in order that you may be put to death. In that case you are mad.'

'I know that many people think it madness to keep their word when it happens to be to their disadvantage,' answered Walter; 'but that is beside the question. I am pleading for your father-in-law, not for my-

self. And I must insist, in his name and for his life's sake, that an immediate search be made for the authorization of which I have spoken.'

'The word "insist" is one which is utterly out of place in this discussion,' observed he; 'but I make allowance for your excited condition, which the circumstances of the case may well excuse. Moreover I should be loath to refuse you satisfaction in so simple a matter.' Here he rang the bell and bade the servant request the presence of Lady Selwyn. 'My wife,' said he, 'who is in constant attendance on her sister, shall at once make search for the paper of which you speak. I conclude you will trust to her report if not to mine.'

'Trust, Sir Reginald!' echoed Walter. 'Do you suppose then that I think you capable of having ignored this authorization or of concealing it? Why, if you knew of it and yet kept it back, you would be a murderer—ay, just as much the assassin of your wife's father.'

'Here is my wife,' interrupted Sir Reginald. 'Pray, keep this extravagant talk of yours, Mr. Litton, somewhat within bounds, or at least reserve it for male ears. She had evidently heard his words and was looking at her husband with inquiring yet frightened eyes. 'A murderer!' she murmured—an assassin!'

'Yes; those were the words this gentleman used, and which he applied to me, madam,' said the baronet. 'Does it appear to you that I look like one or the other?'

'But what does he mean, Reginald?'

'That is more than I can tell you. He has been raving here these twenty minutes about his friends the brigands, who have sent him for a trifle of fifty thousand pounds as the price of your father's release.'

'As the price of his life, Lady Selwyn,' answered Walter. 'He wrote out an order on the bankers for that sum and sent it by your sister; but Sir Reginald tells me it has not been found. I adjure you, if your father's existence is dear to you, to discover what has become of it.'

'Indeed, Mr. Litton, I will do my best,' said Lotty with a glance at her husband. 'My sister is very ill.'

'He knows all that,' interrupted Sir Reginald. 'She is much too ill to be interrogated on any such matter. But if the authorization was confided to Lillian it must be still in her possession. I don't say that I would act upon it, even if it was found, sir,' added he, as his wife left the room 'my idea is that one should never treat with these scoundrels save sword in hand; that we should give them lead and steel—not gold.'

'Nay, Sir Reginald; I am sure if you were to read your father-in-law's words, written as they were in the dire expectation of death, these scruples would weigh as nothing.'

'Well, we shall see. I need not trouble you to wait; but in case of Lady Selwyn's finding this document I will send word of the fact to your address if you will furnish me with it.'

Sir Reginald took out his tablets and wrote down the number of Mr. Baccari's house.

'And if the document is not found, Sir Reginald?'

'Well, in that case I cannot see what is to be done. The troops were promptly sent out and in considerable force.'

'They would have been useless in any case,' said Walter; 'but as it happens they have been withdrawn.'

'I had not heard of that,' returned the other.

'It matters not. I repeat that all armed intervention would be useless.'

'You must really allow others as well as yourself, Mr. Litton, to exercise some judgment in this affair. The British consul, the governor of the town and the humble individual who has the honor to address you are all of one opinion, and it is diametrically opposed to your own. As to the other matter you shall be communicated with if the necessity arises. Good morning to you.'

Walter rose and left the room without a word. He could not trust himself to speak more with this man, who treated the capture and death of a fellow-creature—not to mention that he was a near connection of his own—with such philosophic indifference. He could not imagine that he had failed to convince Sir Reginald of the peril of his father-in-law's position. On the contrary, a suspicion had taken possession of him that the baronet was well aware of it and had his own reasons for affecting to ignore it.

(To be Continued.)

He Didn't Get It.

Hardup (in need of a loan)—You must enjoy your great wealth, Pursell. With an income of a thousand a day the bills of the plumber, and butcher, and iceman have no terrors for you, while I—

Pursell—Yes, yes, Hardup, but you see you are not in daily terror of the chronic beggar nor compelled to refuse a hundred men a day the loans they beg for; so you see we are quits.

LABOR AND WAGES

Cleanings From the Industrial Field of the World.

The Elkhorn Coal and Coke Company of Elkhorn, West Virginia, will soon begin the erection of fifty new coke ovens.

The report of State Mine Inspector John T. Stewart, of Kansas, shows that there are in the State 200 mines proper and 247 strip mines, 447 in all, and that 7,639 people are employed in the industry.

Carlisle, Pennsylvania, has succeeded in securing the fourth new industry in the shape of a silk mill. The company starts with a capital of \$25,000, and will employ from 50 to 120 hands.

The puddlers employed in the rolling mill of the E. and G. Brooke Iron Company, Birdsboro, Pennsylvania, have resumed work after three weeks' idleness, accepting the reduction of from \$3.75 to \$3.50 per ton.

All the Packer collieries, operated by the Philadelphia Coal Company, in the vicinity of Shenandoah, Pennsylvania, employing three or four thousand men and boys, resumed work March 2 after an extended idleness.

The Seattle Typographical Union, Seattle, Washington, has decided to abolish piece work on all the daily newspapers and establish the eight hour working day, with the minimum scale of \$4 per day. Hereafter work will begin on the morning papers at 7.30 p. m. The new system has been adopted by the proprietors.

The weavers in the ribbon department at the Adelaide Silk Mill at Allentown, Pennsylvania, have been notified of a reduction of ten per cent on all heavy grades. The management declares that it is due to the unsteadiness of the market on these silks. The weavers held a meeting and appointed a committee to call on the management with a view to arbitrate.

Division District Assembly No. 1 of National Leatherworkers' Assembly 24, K. of L., were in secret session in Boston last week. Delegates from every town and city in the State were present. By a unanimous vote it was decided to continue the fight in Lynn, and to render the locked out morocco workers every possible assistance.

The threatened strike between the local unions of the International Bricklayers and Masons' Union and Bricklayers' Union No. 7, of New York City, has been averted through a conference held last week. Thos. O. Dea, Secretary of the International Bricklayers and Masons' Union, was present, empowered to approve of such action as might be taken. The proceedings were conducted with the utmost secrecy, and at their conclusion those present were positively instructed to communicate nothing except what was contained in the statement.

Two important bills passed the Ohio State Assembly last week on the recommendation of the trades organizations. One prohibits the employment of Pinkerton agents, and the other makes it unlawful to employ any minor under 14 years of age in any mine, factory, workshop, or establishment where the manufacture of goods is carried on. If passed by the Senate it will go into effect on the 1st of next September. The general agitation is thus making practical progress in spite of occasional interruptions and disappointments.

The market reports indicate a considerable shrinkage in consumption of iron, but prices remain firm, and the settlement of coal and coke troubles will doubtless soon restore general activity. There is much talk of the growing pressure of southern competition amongst the great iron mills, and those conditions are liable to prove a disturbing factor for some time in this great industry until the systems of production and schedules of prices, wages and conditions of employment shall have been to a greater extent equalized.

A much needed lesson was taught last week which is calculated to show the law-evasion labor contractors that they are engaged in a perilous and unprofitable enterprise, and be a warning to their victims in Europe not to mortgage themselves to those cheap labor traffickers for the privilege of coming to this country. About three weeks ago a gang of 28 Italian contract-laborers were landed at New York on their way to work in Pennsylvania. They were detained pending investigation. Acting under instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury, they were put aboard the revenue cutter and put on board the steamship to be returned to their native country.

The largest manufacturing concern in the world is being organized in Chicago and will be engaged in the production of agricultural machinery under the name of the American Harvester Company. It is said the company represents a capital of \$35,000,000. When the great enterprise has been in operation it is expected that it will employ an army of about 50,000 men, besides several thousand agents, and will turn out about 150,000 machines of various kinds a year. The enterprise is not a new and independent establishment, however, but represents rather a combination of several of the leading manufacturers of mowers and

reapers, and it will probably control the agricultural machinery industry of the country until the monopoly shall be broken by new competitors.

The trouble in the Clarks' thread mills seems as far from settlement as ever, and both sides show determination to decide the question by a test of endurance, which seems a very primitive and injudicious way, to say the least. One of the principal mills has been shut down, and the company threaten to close down all their works in Kearney, N. J., indefinitely, and transfer their entire operations to their establishment in Scotland unless their operatives submit to their terms. On the contrary, they have carried their case to the American Federation of Labor, which has championed their cause and has issued a circular to the working people of the whole country and to their families advising them to teach the company a lesson in fair treatment of their employees by declining to purchase their thread so long as they are carrying on a war of injustice against those who have been in their employ.

The price of cotton is quoted low and speculation in the raw material dull. The factories, however, are generally running full handed, and we do not hear of those reductions of wages and rumors of impending strikes, which are so often heard of at this season of the year. The woolen industry is quoted in a much more encouraging condition, the relative situation being practically reversed from what it has been for a couple of years previous to the passage of the new tariff law. The production of knit and dress goods, worsteds, and the medium and lower grades of men's cloth are reported larger than at any time during the past five years.

The eight hour question has been making some progress with the management of the Columbian Fair, and it is now believed that the threatened strike will be averted and that operations will be carried on with comparative smoothness in the future. At a conference held recently between the managers and a committee representing the organized trades of Chicago the labor committee were practically assured that the two principal demands would be recognized. Those are the eight hour law and arbitration. In regard to the minimum rate of day wages for ordinary labor which the workmen desired should be fixed at \$1.50 per day with the preference to be given to home labor, the committee did not feel justified in making any specific promises. It is generally believed that an amicable understanding will be arrived at without much further trouble.

A decision has been rendered by the court in Haverhill, Massachusetts, sustaining and enforcing the provisions of the laws regulating the labor of women and children. The foreman of a manufacturing establishment, was fined fifty dollars for allowing women and children to work more than ten hours a day. It had been claimed that such laws were an infraction of the right of freedom of contract, and were unconstitutional and could not be enforced. On this theory those laws have been constantly evaded in every State in which they have been enacted. Women and children in indigent circumstances have easily been found eager to work under conditions forbidden by law for the sake of retaining the favor of the employers and their chances of steady employment, and in this way the laws designed for the benefit of all have been undermined and their intent defeated. The complaint in this instance was made a test case, and its being decided in favor of sustaining the validity of the law it is believed that numerous other similar actions will be brought against manufacturers throughout the State who have been accused of evading the law in the same way.

Short Hours.

When the cry goes out for shorter hours of labor, the argument is hurled back that it would be restricting the output of commodities, but when a mining or other corporation orders work discontinued for the purpose of raising the price of their product, these howlers have nothing to say. It makes a difference whose ox is gored.

The facts of the case are, that by the shortening of the hours of labor there would be no restriction in the output of products; or the other hand there would actually be an increased output, by reason of calling into service a large army, who had previously been idle. Why there should be hostility, or argument, by any class of men against a shorter work day, we are wholly in the dark.

We can conceive of no class of men, however wealthy they may be, that would not be equally benefited by such a move. We are aware that selfishness lurks in the hearts of of nine hundred and ninety-nine men out of a thousand, yet if a semblance of anything detrimental to the interests of anybody existed in a movement for a shorter working day, we would cheerfully forgive them for arguing against it; but knowing as we do that ignorance is the cause of all opposition, we cannot help feeling a degree of disgust. —Commonweal.

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"THE LABOR PROBLEM."

Our attention has been directed to an article in the Journal of Commerce, of date March 13th, under the above heading, which we have carefully digested but fail to find therein any reference to the "problem" or an attempt at its solution. In fact the article is simply an uncalled for tirade against the K. of L. and Trade Unions in general and their recognized leaders in particular. On this account it is hardly worth noticing, but seeing that it bolsters up its assertions with statements utterly at variance with the truth it becomes necessary to notice it. It is scarcely to be expected that a journal which derives its sustenance and support entirely from the monied and monopolistic class—the class which has made trade unions and other labor organizations a necessity—should discuss impartially the labor problem or, indeed, any question affecting the workingman; but it is looked for at least that facts should not be wilfully distorted or the truth concealed.

Now for the article itself. The writer says:—

"The more intelligent class of artisans have long since recognized the fact that the essence of trades unionism consists in the placing of all grades of workmen, in the same branch of trade, at the same level with regard to pay and privileges. The leaders are well aware that the majority of each class of artisans are always in the poorer grades, and as they are elected to their positions by a brute majority, they naturally legislate for that class alone. The better workman is sacrificed for the poorer, and in order to raise the rate of pay for the latter the former have often to submit to a reduction. A case in point occurred at the longshoremen's strike in this city some years ago. The rates of wages then paid per hour varied according to the ability of the laborer from 15 cents for the poorest to 35 cents for the best. The union struck to secure an average of 25 cents per hour all round, and the extraordinary spectacle was presented of men getting 30 to 35 cents per hour striking at the command of their walking delegate for a reduction of 10 cents per hour in their wages. They were the minority and therefore had to suffer."

The writer is very far astray of the principles of trade unionism. It is true there is a desire to place all men on an equal footing, but only so far as regards opportunity. There never has been nor ever will be any obstruction placed in the way of natural ability or superior attainments. Trade unions direct their energies to levelling up, not in the downward direction indi-

cated by the writer. In all branches of skilled labor they endeavor to formulate a scale, the minimum at which a man may earn enough, with eight or ten hours' toil as the case may be, to live comfortably and respectably; but there is not the slightest objection to the superior workman getting more. That remains with the employer. But how often do we find the employer recognizing merit? Not long ago a case in point came under our observation. A man employed in a certain workshop worked at piece work on a certain class of work along with several others, and by his ability and celerity almost doubled the quantity produced by any of his mates, of course, as it was a piecework job, drawing almost double the pay. What did the employer do? He says to himself: "This man is drawing too much money; I must cut him down," and accordingly he was notified that the rate at which he was paid would be lowered. He refused to submit to this and was placed upon time wages instead—about one-third of what he had been earning. And because he did not produce the same quantity as under the piecework system the man was discharged! In regard to the longshoremen's strike the facts are mis-stated altogether. There were no men on the wharf receiving as high as 35 cents, or even 30 cents per hour, the rate being from 15 to 20 cents, with a very small proportion at 25 cents. The men struck for an additional 5 cents per hour for night work, or an average all round of 25 cents. This is the levelling up process. But even if it were true, as the writer states, that some were receiving 30 to 35 cents per hour, it only shows that these men were actuated by a spirit of self denial—beautiful to behold in anyone and only too rarely met with—in thus willingly reducing themselves that others less fortunate might receive more. Of course the writer is far too narrow-minded to appreciate this.

The writer goes on to state that unionism discourages individual excellence and that the workman has no ambition to excel because he would draw upon himself the censure of his union. Such an assertion as this, when all the facts are against it, is equalled only in effrontery by its untruthfulness. Take whatever branch of skilled labor you choose there is not a trades union but encourages not only individual effort but uniform excellence. And if any deterioration exists among certain classes of mechanics it is the employers who are principally to blame. With selfish greed certain employers have flooded their workshops with boy and girl apprentices, and the consequence is that large numbers of half-taught tradesmen are thrown yearly upon the labor market, becoming a burden to themselves and a standing menace to the future of that particular trade. For year past trades unions have endeavored to combat this evil, but with only partial effect. They have appealed, too frequently in vain, to the employers—to their sense of honor and justice, to their pride in their calling—but they are so blinded by the enhanced profits arising from cheap labor that they turn a deaf ear to such appeals. The majority of employers care not whether a boy learns his trade properly or not; all that concerns him is that his work is turned out cheaply although in a slipshod fashion. What is more likely to perfect the future workman than a good apprenticeship law, and who oppose and who favor it?

"If, then, trades unionism is so harmful to the the intelligent workingman, what must it be to the employer?" asks our contemporary. In reply we say that every intelligent employer prefers union men and recognizes their superiority as workmen and the elevating influences of unionism. Even in the case of labor disputes, where employers do not scruple to take advantage of non-union help to gain a

selfish end, how many at the first opportunity endeavor to secure the return of their old employees? The men who defeated the men of Australia were no better at misrepresentation than the writer is. He says that in this country no combination of employers has been found necessary! Are they not all organized? What are the Manufacturers' Association, and the sugar and cotton combines, who close down, discharge their employees and limit the output at pleasure? Doctors, lawyers, bankers, insurance men and railway men all have combinations to fix their scale of fees, establish the rates of interest and discount, determine insurance rates and impose freight and passenger tariffs. And he best of it all is these combinations are recognized or acting under direct authority from our legislatures. Manufacturers and wholesalers of every description have their combinations, then why not the workingmen? If it is good for the one it must be so for the other, who are in the majority and who are the first to feel the effects of any movement on the part of the trusts and combines. Trades unions and the K. of L. have been the means of raising wages in this and other countries, which would have remained as they were twenty years ago had no such organization existed. Almost invariably wages have been raised through compulsion. Can the writer point to any instance where wages have been raised voluntarily? Besides, has not all legislation affecting the working classes been wrung from parliaments at the instigation of trades unionist? and is not the tendency of the present day legislation largely directed and initiated by organized labor?

When the writer concludes by saying that trades unionism strangles honest endeavor he is simply talking bosh. The highest political and social economists of Great Britain, America and other countries agree as to the necessity and usefulness of workingmen's combinations, and we prefer the opinions of Cardinal Manning, Mr. Gladstone and a host of other eminent men to the vapors of this unknown scribbler of the Journal of Commerce.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

A very important action has been taken by a workingman under the Indiana State law of 1889, which constituted eight hours a day's work and fixed a penalty of \$500 for compelling anyone to work a greater number of hours, the outcome of which will be looked for with interest by workingmen generally. One John Grissell, in the employ of Noel Brothers, of Indianapolis, entered their service in May, 1890, and remained there until a week ago, when he was either discharged or left. Grissell claims that during the period he was in the employment of Noel Brothers he had to work eleven hours, and he now seeks to recover wages for 720 hours and to enforce the penalty which the law fixes for the offence. It is claimed by the unionists of Indianapolis that the State provision regarding the hours of labor is being systematically evaded, and the present action is raised to test the constitutionality of the law. In all likelihood the case will be carried to the Supreme Court in order that a judgment to serve as a precedent may be obtained. The friends of labor reform will leave no stone unturned in order to uphold the statute.

A very unusual occurrence is reported from Bewdley, a small town in Worcestershire, England. A young girl of fourteen years, of respectable family, charged with stealing a copy of a magazine the value of which was under one shilling, was found guilty, after a cursory hearing of the case and sent to ten days' imprisonment with hard labor and three months' detention in a reformatory. On the facts of the case becoming known an indignation meeting was held in the public

square at which several speakers advocated lynching the offending magistrate. The crowd marched to the court house and so frightened the solon on the bench that he reversed his judgment and the victim of this Justice's injustice was set at liberty. The despatch gives no further particulars, but it may be safely predicted that more will be heard of the affair and that the leaders of the movement against the sacred person of one of the great unpaid will be proceeded against. Lynch law does not flourish in the heart of England, however much it is appreciated in the sunny South.

The fearful disaster in Gibraltar Bay by which over five hundred lives have been sacrificed, adds another to the chapter of horrors on an extensive scale that have occurred since the commencement of the present year. From present accounts it would appear to have been purely of an accidental nature, caused by the fierce gale blowing at the time and the strong undercurrent which prevented the unfortunate steamship from making sufficient headway to clear the British ironclad. The horrible scenes so graphically described are relieved by glimpses of true heroism on the part of British seamen whose courage and humanity always stand out prominently in scenes of peril and distress.

The victim of the stabbing case reported last week, a mulatto named Myers, has since died in the General Hospital from the effects of his wound, and a verdict of wilful murder has been returned against his assailant Reynolds by the coroner's jury. In the meantime Reynolds cannot be found, and it is surmised that he has fled to the United States. The police appear, as usual, to have acted very slowly in the matter, and it passes comprehension how the man was allowed to get clear, especially when he was for such a length of time in his victim's company after the affray. In such an evidently serious affair Reynolds ought to have been held as a witness at least by the constable who noticed the blood stains on his hands and clothes.

A deputation from the Single Tax Association of Toronto waited upon the Ontario Government the other day and urged the adoption of such a system of royalties as would enable the public to reap some benefit from the opening up of the mining lands in Western Ontario, and it is believed that the Government will adopt, in a modified degree, some of the recommendations contained in the petition. If so, this will be a recognition of the principle of taxation advocated by the Single Tax party and the insertion of the thin end of the wedge now may mean a further extension of the principle at a future opportunity.

The destruction of a dynamite factory near Hull, Que., is reported, having been blown up subsequent to a fire which started through the carelessness of some of the employees who, contrary to the rules of the establishment, had been smoking in the mixing room. The force of the explosion was distinctly felt thirty miles distant, while the inhabitants of Hull and Ottawa were under the impression that an earthquake had taken place. Finding that they could not succeed in extinguishing the fire which had started the employees fled for their lives, and though the property was completely destroyed no person was injured.

The first work in connection with the World's Fair is that of preparing the ground for the erection of the necessary buildings, and that is being done by Italian laborers, under the padrone system, at the rate of 85 cents a day.

The strike of the London, (Eng.) female rope-makers has been settled in favor of the girls, through the efforts

of the Trades Council, after lasting eleven weeks. Just think of it; the girls received an advance equivalent to 14 cents per week or \$7.28 per year, and it was so precious that they had to wait eleven weeks for it. Oh, yes, employers are always ready to treat their workers with fairness.

The Hartford Examiner says that the family expenses of the average workingman in Massachusetts, as shown by the census returns, were \$250 more than his earnings—the amount being made up, if at all, by other members of the family. There were more persons evicted in New York City during the past year than in Ireland. The vicious and criminal classes are largely composed of persons made desperate by poverty, while liquor drinking is more frequently the result than he cause of it. Workingmen are often accused of extravagance, but it cannot be said that he is guilty of that offence if he saves nothing from ten dollars per week, and that is above the average of wages paid.

Several widows of victims of the recent explosion in a worsted mill at Quebec have instituted heavy actions of damages against the company which owned the concern.

DO YOU KNOW THEM?

The following gentlemen will be found in almost every labor organization: Brother Swellhead, Brother Littlefaith, Brother Doolittle, Brother Alltalk and the brother who paid no dues for the last five months and who wants to know where all the money goes to.—N. Y. World.

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THE TRADES' COUNCIL.

The Regular Fortnightly Meeting—Large Amount of Important Business Transacted.

The regular meeting of the Council was held on Thursday evening last, in the Ville Marie Hall, Notre Dame street, President Boudreau in the chair.

Credentials were read and accepted from O. Lessard, representing Co-operative Assembly, K. of L., and from M. Lecavalier, representing Maisonneuve Assembly.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

The roll call of delegates was then read.

It was then moved by Delegate Lafrance, seconded by Delegate Darlington, that the order of business be suspended to take action on the death of G. E. O. Corriveau, late financial secretary. Carried.

The following resolutions were then adopted on motion of Delegates Pigeon, Maguire, Brennan and Cousineau, seconded by Delegates Fontaine, Lafrance, R. Keys and Darlington:

"That this Council having heard with deep regret of the death of their financial secretary, G. E. O. Corriveau, take the earliest opportunity of expressing their heartfelt sorrow at the loss of so faithful a worker in the cause of labor reform, and to place on record the high estimation in which he was held by the Council alike for his personal qualifications as for his diligent and untiring zeal in the cause of suffering humanity and for his unselfish readiness to assist those least able to help themselves.

"That the Council also desire to tender their deep sympathy to the widow of their deceased fellow-worker in her bereavement, and that a copy of the foregoing resolution be sent to her and to the press for publication."

The Ways and Means Committee on the water tax question were, on motion of Delegate Maguire, seconded by Delegate Murphy, given an extension of time till next meeting.

The election for the office of financial secretary then took place, Delegate E. Pelletier being elected.

There were no reports from the Organization Committee or the Legislative Committee, and the Committee on the Revision of the Constitution were ordered to have a complete report ready within a month.

It was moved by Delegate Pigeon, seconded by Delegate J. Brennan, that the representatives of this Council on the Night School Commission be ordered to have a report in writing at the next meeting of Council. Carried.

Delegate Pelletier was then elected to fill the place of ex-Delegate Brault on the Constitution Committee.

It was then moved by Delegate Easton, seconded by Delegate Darlington, that the motion to grant a bonus to last year's officers, and which had been laid on the table at a previous meeting, be taken up. Lost.

It being ten o'clock, a motion was made and carried to extend the time of the meeting until all the business was transacted.

Delegate Fontaine then rose to a question of privilege and asked permission to read an article from La Patrie, attacking the Council.

It was moved by Delegate Maguire, seconded by Delegate Darlington, that the question of privilege be granted to Delegate Fontaine, and that the article be read in English and French.

After a lengthy debate and a large number of delegates expressing the opinion that the newspaper in question was beneath the notice of the Council, the motion was lost by 21 to 26.

A communication from Districts 18 and 19, K. of L., informing the Council of their intention to hold a picnic next summer and asking for the privilege of holding said picnic on Labor Day, was, on motion of Delegate Lafrance, seconded by Delegate Pigeon, laid over for one month, so that the delegates could have an opportunity to lay the matter before their respective bodies for consideration.

Another communication from D. A. 18, asking the Council to take the necessary steps to have the eight hour day established on all civic works, whether day work or contract work, was read, and on motion of Delegate Maguire, seconded by Delegate Cousineau, was referred to the Legislative Committee.

The meeting then adjourned.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

THE LABOR PROBLEM.

To the Editor of THE ECHO.
SIR,—In a recent issue of a local journal I notice to combines' interests appears the paper of a series treating on what it terms the Labor Problem. In the solving of that problem it attacks the turgid labor agitators, walking delegates, knights of labor, trades unions and the whole labor and reform movement in a spirit unworthy of any personage claiming to be possessed of a spark of toleration or fair play to his fel-

low-man. The article throughout displays such an utter ignorance of the subject it treats on, colored by exaggeration and falsehoods, that it should receive studied and silent contempt from your paper and its readers. Admitting for argument sake that all is truth it writes on the solution of the labor problem and its tirade of abuse, will it please answer what is the cause that leads to such an effect? If it is not the commercial competitive system, organized money combines, the concentration of land and wealth in the hands of a few, name the cause. If the writer will address his ignorance to the columns of THE ECHO and place himself under the tuition of its students of political economy, we will endeavor to educate him on the great social evils of the day, how to remedy them without the use of Gatling guns and Winchester rifles, and persuade him that we are not the demons of darkness he claims us to be.

KNIGHT OF LABOR.

MONTREAL BUILDERS' LABORERS' UNION.

The above union are to give a grand musical entertainment in the Seminary Hall, 1717 Notre Dame street, on Friday evening, 10th April, the proceeds in aid of their accident fund. A splendid musical programme has been provided, some of the best amateur talent of the city taking part, and we are certain that a most enjoyable evening is in store for those who may patronize it. The object for which the concert is got up is a most laudable one, and we hope to see a crowded house on the occasion.

TRUE HUMILITY.

Side by side in the accounts of mining disasters there is something that makes the heart sink with horror and something that makes it glad with a proud respect for human feeling at its best.

The life of the coal miners at best is hard, uncompromising toil. It makes existence a daily treadmill. The cheerfulness which goes with some occupations in the field of physical labor seems to be lacking in the miners'. Delving in the bowels of the earth, where no ray of sunlight can penetrate, and where even the flickering candle which lights the gloomy hole is itself a menace to life, the miner picks his living and earns sustenance for his wife and children in the hardest way.

Then there is the unspeakable horror of explosions, of suffocation from fire or water or earth, for in mining disasters all the elements seem to rise against the grimy toiler. But in these crises the true, warm hearts of his fellow workers show the exquisite fibre of their humanity.

The rescue at Jeanesville is a beautiful example of this. For nineteen days miners were held in a living tomb, unable to do a thing except wait and suffer. But their brethren were digging their way to them, working in relays unremittingly, though with no greater hope than that of rescuing the bodies of the entombed. Is there any human heart so insensible as not to feel the beauty, the pathos of this? Such men are a glory to their race.—New York Evening World.

Well Within the Law.

Wilton Kishu had been one of the directors of a mining company who had used their power with reckless disregard of right to squeeze a dime here and a penny there from their employees. There was no crime in that. If the men worked for them, they must live in the company's houses, buy at the company's stores, abide by the company's terms and pay the company's prices. This is the law of dependency, the privilege of the ployer, the fiat of Christian civilization.

The company was administered on strictly business principles, the most profit for the least expenditure. It was warned again and again that an old working was insecure. But it would take a great deal of money to make it safe. It was nearly exhausted, and would hardly pay to put in good condition. If the miners did not choose to work they could go to some other mine. Of course they would have to leave their homes and take their chances.

One day there was a puff of white smoke, followed by black dust from the pit's mouth!

There are forty-eight miners entombed under a brown hilltop, which rises bleak and bare above them like an eternal appeal to the justice of heaven. There was nothing unlawful about that though. However, Wilton Kishu never liked to travel that way afterward. He urged liberality to the bereaved, and induced the company to give each widow \$500 and a year's lease of her house, on condition that suit was not brought for damages. This was good business. It would have taken much more to put the mine in order, and the profit on a month's labor of the husbands would pay the gratuity to the widows. That was business—lawful business—joined with Christian charity.—Tourge's New Novel, Murvale Eastman.

TERRIBLE MARINE DISASTER

An Emigrant Ship Collides With a Man-of-War

AND OVER 500 OF HER PASSENGERS ARE DROWNED.

GIBRALTAR, March 17.—The British steamship Utopia, from Italian ports, bound to New York with 700 Italian emigrants on board, collided to-day with the British ironclad Rodney, anchored in Gibraltar Bay, and sank soon afterward off Ragged Staff. A southwest gale was blowing at the time of the collision. Many women and children were drowned.

LATER ACCOUNT.

Early last evening the Utopia was seen steaming into the bay in the direction of the anchorage. When abreast of the ironclad Anson the Utopia staggered as though unable to make headway against the terrible current. Suddenly the strong gale, combined with the current, swept the ill-fated vessel across the bows of the Anson and in a moment her hull was pierced and cut by the ram of the ironclad. The Utopia after pulling clear of the ironclad, drifted about before wind and sea. The rapid inrush of water through the rent in her side caused her to settle down in five minutes from the time of the first impact.

The Anson's boats were lowered immediately as were also boats from the other vessels of the British Channel squadron, the Swedish man-of-war Freya and the cable ship Amoy. The ironclads turned their powerful electric search lights on the scene of the disaster to assist the rescuers. On the shore the news spread quickly; an enormous crowd soon gathered on the parade, and great excitement prevailed. The shrieks of the Utopia's passengers and crew could be plainly heard above the roaring of the gale. The sea was so heavy that the boats of the rescuers could not with safety approach the wreck, so they were compelled to lie to leeward, where they picked up the people as they were swept from the decks.

As the Utopia's bows settled a terrible scene was witnessed from the boats. Those still on board the sinking steamer made a sudden rush en masse to the fore-rigging, struggling for their lives and vainly seeking places of refuge. Twenty minutes later the fore-castle was submerged, and a large number of persons gathered there who had not dared to leap overboard with the hope of being rescued by the boats and who had failed in their efforts to ascend the rigging, were carried away by the waves. A steam pinnace rescued all those who had taken refuge in the main rigging, but the last ones were not taken off until 11 o'clock at night. The blue jackets clambered into the shrouds and passed the helpless people to the rescuers in the boats. Both the British and the Swedish sailors did plucky and vigorous work. While a steam pinnace belonging to the British ironclad Immortalite was engaged in the work of rescue her screw fouled and she became helpless and drifted on the rocks. In trying to save themselves two of the sailors aboard the pinnace were drowned.

The total number of lives lost is now placed at 576. Divers are at work recovering bodies from the wreck. Faterson, a Swedish quartermaster, who had been steering the Utopia a short time before the collision, says that just before the vessels came together he went below. He says that while on board the Utopia after the collision he was surrounded by a terrible mass of human beings fighting their way desperately and savagely, regardless of sex or age, toward the boats.

Men, women and children tumbled and climbed over each other in that horrible fight for a chance of escape from drowning. One poor woman who was rescued by the Anson's blue jackets went raving mad when she was convinced that her children were drowned. There were similarly distressing incidents by the score, the most awful of all occurring when the Utopia with a final desperate lurch sank with her human freight clinging about her. Shrieking, praying women sank to rise no more with their terrified offspring clasped to their breasts. Children clung to their parents so desperately as in several cases to cause the death of both, where both might have escaped had better judgment been used. Husbands and wives sank while grasping each other in frantic efforts to keep each other afloat. Many a good swimmer went down with some horrified, fear-maddened persons clinging to him with the tenacity of the desperation of death.

GIBRALTAR, March 20.—The bodies of 28 adults and three children, victims of the disaster, were interred together here to-day in a trench dug in the ground specially blessed for the reception of the remains. The bodies of many of the drowned were found so firmly clasped together that it was difficult to separate them.

Captain McKeague, of the Utopia, who had been arrested charged with wrongful

acts, improper conduct, negligence and mismanagement, had a preliminary hearing before a magistrate to-day. He was remanded for a further hearing.

It is officially stated that 562 persons lost their lives by the disaster.

The bodies buried to-day were conveyed to the cemeteries in waggons covered with the British and Italian flags.

At a meeting yesterday a subscription was organized and a relief committee was appointed.

The Anchor line steamer Assyria has arrived here. She will take back to Italy the rescued who wish to return.

In addition to the charges laid against Captain McKeague, he is accused of feloniously slaying certain persons unknown. He was bailed in £480.

At the inquest into the Utopia disaster to-day officers of the British war vessels laid the blame for the collision on the officers of the Utopia.

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have found that it is an establishment which gives unvarying satisfaction, and each customer has "made a note of" this fact, and wisely continues to send his washing to us. If YOU are not already among our clientele do not delay any longer, but give us a trial. It will be greatly to your advantage, for by doing so you will

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CARSLEY'S COLUMN.

TAKE THE FIRST TRAIN!

All ladies residing within 200 miles from Montreal, and requiring a New Spring Mantle or Jacket, should take the first train and drive direct to S. Carsley's, and make a selection now just as the goods have arrived from Berlin, Paris and London. They will be amply rewarded for the trip by seeing all the latest novelties in New Trimmings, Dress Goods, Silks, Curtains, Carpets and other goods, besides saving from fifteen to twenty-five percent on a New Jacket, Dolman, Ulster, other shape Mantle, or Costume.

S. CARSLEY.

New Mantles Extraordinary

Our first large shipment of New Spring Jackets and Mantles was received last evening. Several shipments have come to hand during February and early this month, but this is our first large delivery.

Ready! Ready! Ready! Ready!

Thousands of New Spring Jackets, Dolmans, Ulsters and other stylish Mantles are now marked and ready for sale.

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LITTLE BOYS' SKIRT SUITS. Six different styles in Skirt Suits for little boys of 2, 3 and 4 years.

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Fifty different styles in Boys' Knicker Suits in English, Scotch and Canadian Tweeds.

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Long pants; correct style; fine finish; equal to custom made at half the price.

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Boys' Jersey Suits in 50 styles. Boys' Velvet Suits in 6 styles. Boys' Corduroy Suits. Boys' Serge Suits. Boys' Worsted Suits. Boys' Dress Suits. Boys' College Suits. Boys' School Suits.

MOURNING SUITS.

Children's Mourning Suits. Boys' Mourning Suits. Youths Mourning Suits.

Mourning Coats for Children, Boys and Youths.

The largest stock of Ready-made Clothing in Canada for Children, Boys and Youths.

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Spring Coats for Children. Spring Coats for Boys. Spring Coats for Youths.

REEFERS.

Children's Reefers. Boys' Reefers. Youths' Reefers. In Serge, Beaver and Nap Cloth.

WATERPROOF COATS.

Children's Waterproof Coats, Boys' Waterproof Coats, Youths' Waterproof Coats, with and without capes. In various patterns from \$1.65, \$1.65, \$1.65, \$1.65, \$1.65, \$1.65.

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Navy Serge Tunics, White Estamene Tunics, White Drill Tunics, Navy Serge Knickers, White Estamene Knickers, White Drill Knickers, Navy Serge Pants, White Estamene Pants, White Drill Pants, Lan-yards and Boatswain's Whistles, Lan-yards and Jack Knives, Navy, Sky and White Collars, Chest Preservers, Arm Badges, Jack Tar Caps, First Officer Caps.

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Children's Spring Mantles in English and American styles, in twenty different materials.

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Girls' Reefers in Nap Cloth, Serge and Fancy Tweeds

Children's Plush Coats in leading colors. Infant's Swansdown Coats in new shades, Hundreds of Garments to select from.

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FOR LITTLE GIRLS.

Silk Hoods, Plush Hoods, Cashmere Hoods, Silk Hats, Plush Hats, Cashmere Hats, in all sizes, 2 to 6 year, and in all colors.

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Silk Caps, Cashmere Caps, Plush Caps, Silk Tams, Cashmere Tams, Plush Tams. In all colors, for 1 to 2 years.

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Clapperton's Spool Cotton never breaks, never knots, never ravel, and every spool is warranted 300 yards. Always ask for

Clapperton's Spool Cotton.

CARSLEY'S COLUMN.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

European.

Parnell was well received at Cork on Tuesday. He made three speeches.

A bill has passed the British Parliament vesting the corporation of Stratford, county of Warwick, as trustees of Shakespeare's birthplace and other memorial places, with power to purchase Anne Hathaway's cottage and Wilmoote cottage, which belonged to Shakespeare's mother.

In its final report the Parliamentary committee on colonization does not advise a general extension of the system of state aided emigration, except in the case of the congested districts in Scotland and Ireland. The committee suggests that the provisions of the Irish Land Act dealing with the question of congested districts be also applied to Scotland. They advise that the experiment of sending a hundred crofter families to America be postponed and also advise the adoption of the proposal of British Columbia to furnish \$100,000 from the treasury free of interest for five years to assist in the work of colonization.

A train loaded with provisions for the prisoners and officials of Dartmoor prison, who had been out of supplies by the terrible snowstorm recently, reached the prison after being blocked for nine days. In the meantime the rations of the inmates of the prison had to be reduced, and there was considerable grumbling among the convicts because they were forced to subsist on salt meat. One prisoner was so angered because his demands for food were not granted that he stabbed and seriously wounded one of the wardens.

Maurice Healy, one of the members of Parliament for Cork city, announces that he accepts the challenge of Parnell that they should both resign their seats in Parliament and present themselves for re-election as a test of the popular sentiment in favor of the merits of the McCarthyite and the Parnellite causes.

A stormy scene occurred at the London County Council Wednesday night. It was occasioned by Mr. Davies asking the council to suspend the opening of Waterloo park by the Prince of Wales pending the outcome of the coming baccarat case. The request was met with cries of "order," "sit down," etc. During the uproar Councilman Burns was heard to exclaim: "He would be better employed there than in gambling." The chairman declined to interfere.

Speaking at Lambeth on Wednesday Mr. McCarthy credited Parnell with the full blame of the failure of the Boulogne negotiations. He said one good result of the controversy was that Ireland had declared forever against dictatorship. If the Irish were to be governed by a dictator he would as leave have Balfour as anybody else.

In the British House of Commons on Wednesday Mr. Rowland (Gladstonian) moved (John Morley supporting the motion) the second reading of the Welsh Local Option bill, which was carried by a vote of 186 to 179 amid Opposition cheers.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Berliner Tageblatt, which is the chief mouthpiece of the Jews in Germany, has been expelled from Russia under the Jewish decree.

American.

A terrific mine explosion occurred near Ashland, Pa., on Tuesday. Two men were blown to atoms, another was fatally injured and others were seriously hurt.

It is said that Attorney General Hart, of San Francisco, has evidence implicating several legislators in a case of alleged bribery connected with the United States senatorial contest.

Frank I. Frayne, the well known actor, died at Chicago on Monday, of neuralgia of the heart. He was born in Danville, Ky., in 1839. He accidentally shot his first wife while acting in Cincinnati in 1880, and in 1884 he married Margaret Thompson, who survives him.

Judge Benedict, in the United States Circuit Court, on Wednesday, sentenced General Peter A. Glassen to six years' imprisonment in the Erie county penitentiary, Glassen was convicted of wrecking the Sixth National bank.

There was a shooting scrape at New Orleans on Wednesday between Arthur Dunn, one of the State counsel in the Hennessy case, and Frank Waters, a well known newspaper reporter. Two shots were fired. Waters was killed and Dunn seriously injured.

A man jumped over Niagara Falls at Prospect Point on Wednesday afternoon. He came from the west and had a ticket for New York via the West Shore railway. He was about 24 years of age, good looking, and well dressed, and weighed 160 pounds. He had the appearance of a Frenchman, and spoke broken English.

The Bureau of the American Republics at Washington has information that overtures recently made by the Government of Canada to the Government of British Guiana, for a reciprocity treaty were rejected by the latter on the ground that an arrangement of this character with the United

States is preferred, and the Government of British Guiana would not enter into any arrangement which would prevent reciprocity with the United States.

Rev. Howard McQueary, the Episcopal minister convicted of heresy, will preach no more in Canton. He has had propositions from Unitarian churches in Chicago and Toronto, Ont.; from Jamestown and other points. Mr. McQueary expected to be acquitted. His admirers all over the country are sending him sympathetic letters and messages.

Canadian.

A deputation from Sorel waited upon Sir Hector Langevin at Ottawa and asked him to sit for Richelieu instead of Three Rivers.

Information received by the Department of Agriculture at Ottawa is to the effect that the cattle on the ranches in the MacLeod district were suffering from the severe cold. There was no appearance, however, of disease among the animals.

In a Changing World.

Geologists have described Britain as swarming with a multitude of forms of gigantic reptiles, some of them sixty feet or more in length, during the reptilian age—the middle period in the earth's geological history, when mollusks and reptiles attained their culmination and declined, and when the first mammals and the first birds appeared. A striking picture of England at a later epoch—the middle Quarterplants, of nearly twice the bulk of the largest individuals that now exist—in Ceylon and Africa, roamed here in herds, if we may judge from the abundance of their remains. Two horned rhinoceroses, of at least two species, forced their way through the ancient forests, or wallowed in the swamps. The lakes and rivers were tenanted by hippopotamuses, as bulky and with as formidable tusks as those of Africa.

Three kinds of wild oxen found subsistence in the plains. There were also gigantic deer, wild horses and boars, a wild-cat, lynx, leopard, a British tiger larger than that of Bengal, and another and even more terrible carnivorous monster with sabre-shaped canines fully eight inches long. There were a savage bear larger than the Rocky Mountain grizzly, a gigantic beaver, and smaller animals, down to bats, moles, rats and mice.

A Romance of Old Slavery Days.

A colored woman, bent nearly double with eighty years and a heavy bundle, was seen to board the Cincinnati Mail line packet yesterday afternoon. Approaching the clerk of the boat she slowly untied a knot in the corner of her red bandanna handkerchief and produced enough cash to purchase a deck ticket for Cincinnati. The wrinkled old negress is the heroine of a romance.

In ante-bellum days she was a slave and was owned by a planter near Asheville, N. C. At an early age she was married to a slave of the same master. By him she had several children. Over half a century ago her husband was torn from her and her children and was sold to another planter. The woman continued to work on the North Carolina plantation, and in a short time was married again. Her whole family was then put on the block and sold to a Virginia man. When the emancipation proclamation was promulgated the family took advantage of their freedom and journeyed northward, finally taking up their home in Louisville. The husband died after the close of the war, and the children one by one left their mother to seek their fortunes.

The mother toiled and labored to make a livelihood. She heard nothing of her first husband until about a month ago, when one of her sons found that the old man was living at Newport, Ky. The old negress journeyed thither and found the husband of her youth. He had also been married a second time, and had several children by his second wife. The latter was dead, however, and the reunited couple decided to again live together. The woman returned to Louisville, disposed of her effects, and yesterday completed the romance of fifty years by returning to her husband.—Louisville Post.

A Kind-Hearted Official.

Guard (New York Elevated Railroad)—The doctor says I'm getting dyspepsia.

Superintendent (kindly)—I'm sorry to hear that. What causes it?

Why, sir, under the rules, I've got to take my meals while on duty on the train, and the doctor says eatin' so fast will kill me.

I see. You have to swallow your meals at the rate of twenty miles an hour. Well, I'll order the engineers to reduce the speed to nine miles an hour at meal time.

Mr. Parnell, it is stated, had decided to resign his seat in Parliament in accordance with his challenge to Mr. Healy.

The Chronicle declares that during the dock strike of 1889, Davitt and Healy urged the National league to subscribe £1,000 to aid the strikers and Parnell vetoed the project.

A MOONSHINER'S SMART WIFE.

The Exciting Experience of a United States Deputy Marshal.

"Hunting moonshiners is just as exacting a sport as hunting tigers in the jungles of India," said an old deputy United States Marshal yesterday, "but it is not so dangerous. The wives and daughters of the moonshiners, as a rule are smarter than the men, and much more suspicious of a stranger."

"I was over in Clay County on a raid once, and was in a locality where almost every man owned a still. In such a place it is hard to locate the still, and almost impossible to obtain evidence against the owners unless they are caught in the act of making 'mountain dew.' I introduced myself as a land agent prospecting for mineral lands, but the natives did not believe my story, and I was regarded with more or less suspicion. I was after a noted moonshiner named Newt Bledsoe, who was known to have been operating a still in that locality for two years.

"I had trouble in finding a place where they would let me stay all night, but finally a native suggested that I try Deacon Bledsoe. 'The Deakin's son on 'ligion, the Bible, and sich, an' 'e allus takes in strangers,' said the native. I was directed to the Deacon's house, two miles down the valley, and arrived there an hour after dark. I did not once associate Deacon Bledsoe, who was 'sot on the Bible,' with Moonshiner Newt Bledsoe. In response to my hello a tall, innocent looking old countryman came out to the gate, and by the light of a pine torch which he carried in his hand he looked me over. 'Be you 'uns the new Methodist circuit rider?' he asked. I decided to play preacher for once, and answered in the affirmative.

"Light parson, I'm a hardshell, but you're welcome. I never lays it up again a man 'cause he don't belong to my church,' and the Deacon received me with true mountain hospitality.

"At bedtime Bledsoe brought out a well worn family Bible and invited me to lead in prayer. I had not prayed since I was a boy at Sunday school, but was in for it, and, reading a chapter in the Bible, we all knelt down and I delivered some sort of a prayer. In my petitions I referred to those sianers who defied the laws of God and man by making spirits, and prayed the Lord to turn them from their wicked ways. To this Bledsoe responded with a loud amen!

"I rose early the next morning, and, finding that breakfast was not ready, I started for a stroll through the woods back of the house. As I left the yard I noticed Bledsoe's wife watching me with evident suspicion. I walked on down to a small branch which ran through the woods three hundred yards back of the house. I saw smoke rising among the trees a little ways down the branch, and, walking down that way, I found my host, Deacon Bledsoe, building a fire under one of the largest moonshine stills I ever saw. He seemed as much surprised as I was, and in an instant it dawned on me that Deacon Bledsoe and Moonshiner Newton Bledsoe were one and the same person. Before he recovered from his surprise I had him covered with my revolver, and, telling him who I was, ordered him to surrender.

"'Drap that thar weppin', I knowed you warn't no parson,' said a female voice behind me at that moment, and turning I saw Bledsoe's wife. She had the drop on me with a long rifle, and I dropped my pistol. Bledsoe picked up my revolver, and I was marched to the house a prisoner.

"'Thar's your critter ready saddled an' here's a bite to eat; now git,' said Mrs. Bledsoe, and she kept me covered with the rifle, while her husband handed me back my pistol when I had mounted my horse.

"'Won't you pray for us agin, parson, 'fore you go?' said Bledsoe with a grin as I rode away. A week later I returned with a strong posse, captured Bledsoe and destroyed his still. I could have made a case against his wife, but I wouldn't do it."—St. Louis Globe Democrat.

Automatic Time Recorder.

A device has been perfected for recording time automatically. It fills a want that has long existed in factories, shops and stores, where a faithful register of the time at which employees begin and leave their work is all important both to the employer and employed. The method heretofore adopted, the employment of a special time keeper, is open to the objection that it not only entails expense, but also gives rise to frequent disputes as to the accuracy of the timekeeper's record. The new system practically makes every man his own time keeper. Each workman is given a number, and when he goes to work he takes his key from the keyboard, inserts it in the keyhole of the recorder, turns it half way round, takes it out and passes it in to his work. This action records on the paper ribbons within the machine the number of his key and the exact time of day. If it is desired to register when going out the workman holds

down the lever on the outside of the recorder while registering, which prints a star in front of the record. It is said that one hundred men can thus register within five minutes, and the time of each employee can be read off at a glance without a chance of a mistake. The slips of paper can be removed daily, twice a day or weekly and filed away and the workman's time is practically in his own hand writing, but is entirely beyond his control. There is no possibility of one man registering for another, as a bell rings when each register is recorded, so that a man registering twice could be easily detected. An additional safeguard against abuse or tampering is that the recorder is supplied with a device by which the key, after a partial turn, is locked in and cannot be taken out until it registers. The machine is the most complete and effective apparatus yet devised for the purpose.

THE LEFT LEG.

There is a popular idea that because the right arm is more often used than the left, so the right leg is stronger than the left. This is not correct; there is evidence that the left leg in most people is stronger than the right. From the theoretical point of view it would appear that in all manual labor requiring increased use of the right hand, the left is also employed on the principle of equilibrium.

In the case of lower animals (except ambulacators, camels, etc.), and babies, where walking on all fours, the right fore limb moves with the left hind limb, and vice versa. It follows from this that man, using the right arm more than the left, would probably use the left leg more than the right.

Many people find less exertion in walking around large circles to the right than in going to the left. This is also the case in race paths for athletic sports, nearly all of which are arranged for the racers to go in circles to the right in running. Again, travellers have observed that hunters, when lost on prairies, wander around in circles to the right.

This fact has been attributed to their following the course of the sun, but this does not appear to be necessarily the case. Many skaters can perform more figures on the left than on the right foot—or, at any rate, in commencing, figures are more readily done on the left foot. With rope dancers it is usually observed that the more complicated feats of balancing are performed on the left foot.—Nineteenth Century.

A Neat Reminder.

Mr. Faintheart—Are you fond of champagne, Miss Rosa?

Miss Rosa—Moderately so; but what I most admire about a bottle of champagne is the cork.

Mr. Faintheart—Indeed! And for what reason, pray?

Miss Rosa—Oh, merely because it pops so delightfully.

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Sugar Refining Co.
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Redpath



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THE SLEEP OF REST.

In slumber sweet a little maid
Is dreaming fast the hours away,
Where birds of song pour forth their lay,
Beneath an old oak's sylvan shade.

The merry waters in the rill
Sing songs unknown to any time,
And while they chant their blissful chime,
The sunshine kissed plain and hill.

And still in sleep the peaceful maid
Dreams on while sunbeams in the West
Sink lower to their couch of rest,
And cast on her their light and shade.

Alas! She sleeps the sleep of rest,
For death hath claimed her lovely form,
In slumber sweet she passed the storm
That gathered round her peaceful breast.

Oh, loved one lost! Oh, peaceful sleep!
Our bark we launch upon the waves,
And drift to that wild land of graves,
Where friends may gather round and weep.

And yet we think that life is best,
We fill our brains with visions wild,
And soon, just like the little child,
We sleep the blessed sleep of rest.

PHUNNY ECHOES.

An ice bill may be cool, but it is not always collected.

The world never sits down twice on a man who has any point about him.

You may doubt a man's Christianity who is always complaining of his dinner on wash days.

The professional carman is an influential fellow, for his business gives him a great pull.

In some cases jealousy is a sign of love, but it is more frequently proof of overwhelming egotism.

Your husband owns a yacht, I believe? You are mistaken, I assure you. The yacht owns him.

Clara—What did you get such a small hat for? Maud—I got this for Lent. You know I never go to the theatre in Lent.

I, said Binks, started out in life without a cent in my pocket. And I, put in Hicks, started in life without a pocket.

The man who will complain that a twenty minute sermon is too long will sit half a day watching a couple of chess players making two moves.

Just think of it, continued the Anarchist with himself, I find a nickel in the street and two seconds afterwards I find a saloon. Some men are born lucky.

She—You don't mind my talking so much, do you? He—No, indeed; but (facetiously) I may mind after we are married. She—But I shan't mind then if you do.

Woman is a theory, and man makes no more serious mistake than when he attempts to deal with her as he would with a fact. Men are facts, and facts are stubborn things.

I understand you were engaged to him before we were married? Yes, but he's single yet, and there's certainly no harm in his asking how your cough is getting along.

He (feeling his way)—I—I wish we were good enough friends for you to—call me by my first name. She (helping him along)—Oh, your last name is good enough for me.

The face of the returns, said the chairman of the meeting, shows sixty-seven eyes an no noses. What a queer looking face that must be, remarked an old lady in the back row.

Small Boy—Grandpa, the robins are singing this morning. Is that a sign that spring is here? Grandpa (who has been deceived too often)—No. It's a sign that robins ain't got no sense.

The world consists principally of two classes—those who deceive and those who are deceived. It is more advantageous to belong to the former, but much more decent to belong to the latter.

The Squire—Good morning, Miss Violet. Bent on an errand of mercy? Miss Violet (the rector's daughter)—Oh, no! I am just taking a few little pies of my own making round to the cottagers.

Mr. Jones—So you have been off on a bridal tour to Canada and Niagara Falls. What did you see that pleased you most while you were away, Mrs. Spoony? Mrs. Spoony (modestly)—My husband.

She—So you are tied fast, for good and all, to the beautiful heiress, Miss MacShiners, with the golden locks. He—Yes; but it was the government bonds, and not the golden locks that I was after.

That old maid of a Miss Skemkins is still fishing for Mr. Richem. You should not say that, remarked her elder sister, severely; considering dear Miss Skemkins' general physique, you should rather say angled for him.

The New Testament.

Ignoramus (at a party a few years hence)—What in the world is the matter with Miss Beauty's once lovely arms? They are full of red blotches and scratches.

Scientific Guest—Oh, that's all right. She has simply been vaccinated against consumption, smallpox, typhoid fever, and twenty or thirty other diseases.

Good-Looking Salesmen.

It is a fact that it pays retailers in certain lines of business to employ handsome and ornamental male clerks, just as much as it is profitable for confectionery stores to present the smiles of a pretty girl with every box of bon bons, says the Baltimore News. We may soar as high as we please in our philosophy, yet the vulgar truth remains that in the hundreds of thousands of women shoppers in New York there is a large class that enjoys being waited upon by a good looking man.

A merchant who deals in various charming and delicate articles intended for feminine use was discussing this point recently.

"Yes," said he, "I always employ good looking clerks. It took me a long time, however, to find out just what sort of good looks I required. When I was at first advised to get some handsome men into my store I cast about to find a fine lot of strong featured and athletic chaps—fellows that would be conspicuous anywhere for their muscular beauty and fineness of countenance, but not only did I find this a most difficult task, but the few examples I did secure seemed to have no attraction for the ladies at all.

"Finally a friend put me on to the fact that I must employ an entirely different order of fellows. I must get a lot of white-faced, slim-waisted, perfumed, and soft-voiced chaps, who could look unflattering things on the slightest provocation at a lady of any appearance of age. I found such men as these very abundant, and I now have no less than twenty who are, every one of them, more or less worshipped by the ladies that come to my shop."

Away Ahead of Noah's Ark.

A dispute once arose between two Scotchmen, named Campbell and McLean, upon the antiquity of their families. The latter would not allow that the Campbells had any right to rank with the McLeans in antiquity, who, he insisted, were in existence as a clan since the beginning of the world. Campbell had a little more biblical knowledge than his antagonist and asked of the clan McLean before the flood.

Flood? what flood? asked McLean. Why, the flood that drowned all the world but Noah and his family, and his flock, returned Campbell.

Pooh! you and your flood, said McLean, my clan was before that flood of course. I have not read in my bible, said Campbell, of any one of the name of McLean going into Noah's ark.

Noah's Ark! angrily exclaimed McLean, who ever heard of a McLean that hadn't a boat of his own?

The Evil One to Blame.

The proprietor of a hotel at Nisch, in Servia, gives notice of the death of his wife in all the Servian papers in the following manner: "With a heart full of sadness I hereby give notice of the death of my beloved wife, Sophia, who died by her own hand, aged thirty-two, last Sunday. For nine years we lived happily together, and to me in her youth and beauty she was ever as a flower laden with the dew of early morning, an ornament to my home and the pride of my heart. Last winter the evil one sent a wicked major to my house, who persecuted my poor wife until he succeeded in seducing her innocent heart. When I found them out my beloved Sophia was so filled with shame at her sin that she fired a revolver at herself, thus redeeming her good name, but leaving me an unhappy man for the rest of my life." After this poetical communication the bereaved husband declares that whenever he succeeds in finding Sophia's major he will certainly give him up to the police.

A Boy of the Period.

A young man married a rich widow, who died shortly after the ceremony, and left a bereaved widower and a large amount of property. One day he was visiting at the house of a friend who had a family of four little boys, and the widower began quizzing them.

Well, George, what are you going to be when you grow up, he inquired.

I guess I'll be a poet, answered the little fellow.

And what are you going to try and do, Willie?

I'm going to be an artist.

An artist, eh! and what do you think you will adopt as a profession, Eddie?

Pa says he's going to make a minister out of me.

That's good, very good. Now, Frankie, let me hear what you intend to be?

I'm going in for the money.

Going into the money making business. Well, what is it?

I'm going to be a rich widower, I am.

A Regular Dilemma.

A.—I am in a hideous pickle.

B.—How so?

A.—I have not got anything to eat, and the only thing I've got to pawn is my false teeth, and if I pawn them and buy something to eat then I can't eat it. I never was in such a hideous fix in all my life.

UP TO SNUFF.

Growth of the Snuff-Taking Habit—The Etiquette of Snuffing.

A rather remarkable statement is going the rounds of the papers to the effect that the Catholic Bishop of Massachusetts has forbidden the use of snuff, which has been so extensively adopted by the servant girls and factory operatives of that State that fifteen tons of snuff are annually consumed by them is enough, one would think for all the States of America. A representative of the Post and Tribune, alarmed by the view of the snuff-taking question, called on a well-known druggist and asked him if he had noticed any increase in the habit.

"I certainly have," he answered courteously; "five years ago we had about fifty customers who took snuff, and they were old people who had acquired the habit many years ago. Now we have ever two hundred and new ones constantly coming."

"How do you account for it?"

"On purely medicinal grounds. This climate is full of catarrh and doctors order their patients to take catarrh snuff or to snuff salt and water up their nostrils, and so they get the habit of snuffing, and I believe it is good for catarrh."

"But what kind of snuff do they use?"

"The old-fashioned Scotch snuff Maccaboy or black snuff. It is put up in bladders or jars and sells for 6 or 8 cents an ounce or 75 cents a pound. I have a couple of customers who dip with it."

"That is the Southern way of using snuff, is it not?"

"These ladies are from the South; they have snuffing socials at their houses, and the guests sit in rows and dip long sticks into jars of snuff, then they rub it about their gums with a slow, sleepy motion, and it acts like a sedative."

Live and lean! The seeker after knowledge thanked the druggist and withdrew, pondering upon the fascinations of tobacco. A half century ago snuffing was a habit of aristocracy. Lords and dukes, kings and nobles carried costly snuff-boxes of the most exquisite design and workmanship, and honored their friends by proffering a "pinch." Some of these curious boxes can be found in Detroit to-day, jeweled and crested and gold-mounted, the name and armorial bearings of Lord Houghton being preserved on one which is a family heirloom. It would be a treat to see a couple of the old grandees meet, powdered and peruked, the lace ruffles falling over their fine white hands while the thumb and forefinger closed on the proffered snuff, and then insinuated it gently with many unctuous sniffs and contortions into the convetous nose. It is told of a gentleman who visited Scotland where snuff is a natural luxury, that he had a very large nose, and at the inn where he lodged the host approached and tendered him the hospitalities of the snuff-boxes.

"I never touch it," said the Englishman with supreme disdain.

"Weel, noo, that's a sair pity," answered the Scotch snuffer, gazing upon the stranger's prominent nose, "for ye have great accommodation for it!"

One man made a fortune by selling snuff and he wanted an inscription for a chariot he was about to set up. A wit suggested that, as it had been contributed by the noses of snuff-takers, that these lines would be appropriate:

"Who would have thought it,
That noses had bought it."

An old Scotch minister found him elf once during a stormy period without any snuff; he was nearly distracted for he snuffed in liberal quantities, and he sent for the man of the manse and said: "Sandy, ye mon, get me some snuff this vera day."

Sure enough, Sandy brought him a quantity of snuff, and when he had inhaled it to his heart's content he turned to the faithful serving man and asked:

"Whaur did ye find it, Sandy?"

"It waur the drappings o' the pulpit," answered Sandy, coolly. "Ye waur aye wastin', an' I sweepit them up forbye, an' ye have it noo!"

There is a certain etiquette in snuff-taking which forbids a man to sneeze as if he were an amateur in the business. An old gentleman was offered some strong snuff once and it so tickled his nose that he sneezed continuously, until at last, getting his breath, he gasped: "Go on! Go on! Sneez your d—d foolish head off, and I hope when you get through the old boy will treat you to guppowder for being such a nippy!" Among some of the quaint signs of the past century, was one over the door of a tobacconist, which read:

"We three
Brothers be
In one cause—
Tom puffs
Billy snuffs,
And I chaws."

Gadsby—Those three dude sons of Van Nostrand cost him about \$5,000 a year. Miss Caustique—Then he has been putting a good deal of money into real estate. How's that? He is spending \$5,000 a year on a vacant lot.

Eight Hours Gaining Ground.

There is no doubt at all that the movement in favor of the enactment by law of an eight hour day in all trades and businesses conducted for profit is gaining strength rapidly. This will be made quite clear at the next general election. The more the subject is discussed, the more clearly does it appear that mere trade option or any other tinkering proposal is entirely out of place; the more manifest, too, does it become that the trade unions are unable, in the great majority of cases, to obtain an eight hour day for themselves, or, assuming it to be gained in a few instances, to retain it when got. Consequently, the intervention of the legislature is essential, as we have always

maintained, and this is now the opinion of the majority of working men and working women. Working women in particular cannot hope to gain shorter hours except by legislative enactment, and they suffer most of all. Of course we know that an eight hour law is merely palliative of existing slavery and cannot change economical conditions. But that we have so often shown this that we need not labor the point now.—London Justice.

On Wednesday 138 employees of the Merrimac mills, Lowell, Mass., were discharged because they remained out to celebrate St. Patrick's day. Ten persons were also discharged from the Lawrence Company's mills for the same reason.

BEDDING!

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GRAND SACRIFICE NOW GOING ON.

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NO CREDIT AND NO BIG PRICES.

P. GALLERY,

(LATE OF GALLERY BROS.)

PLAIN AND FANCY BREAD BAKER,

252 RICHMOND STREET, MONTREAL.

Having built a new and improved Bakery is now prepared to serve the public with the Best Plain and Fancy Bread at the LOWEST PRICES. Orders sent to above address will be promptly filled.

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EASTERN ASSURANCE CO. OF CANADA. CAPITAL, \$1,000,000.

AGRICULTURAL INS. CO. OF WATERTOWN. ASSETS OVER \$2,000,000.

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OUR BOARDING HOUSE

Reflections on Current Events by the Boarders.

"There is one thing that I can't understand," said Sinnett, addressing Phil, "and that is this: You say that the eight hour day, land and money reform, factory and lien acts, master and servants' acts, free education and the abolition of child labor and a lot of other reforms for which labor agitates are mere side issues. You don't believe that either one or the other, or yet all of them together, will solve the labor question; then why should we waste our energy and time upon them? You have repeatedly said that free trade is as nothing compared to the advantages of free and compulsory education or the benefits of the eight hour day, yet I question if there is a more enthusiastic free trader in the room than yourself; you will argue all night with a man to bring him around to your way of thinking, and then when you succeed you coolly tell him that after all the question is but a side issue. I don't think it's right; if it's a side issue why create friction or ill-will by discussing it? Why don't you plainly state what you believe to be the true solution of the labor question and stick to that? If, as you say, nothing less than the abolition of the wage system will ever satisfy you, why divide the people on minor matters?"

"Because it is upon minor matters that the people are asked to decide whenever the Government comes to the country," said Phil. "Another thing which you will have to consider in the introduction of reforms is whether the people are alive to the necessity of measures such as you wish to introduce. The great increase in the productive power of the world and the ever increasing number of idle laborers have secured a favorable hearing to the agitators for an eight hour day and the time for its adoption is near at hand. The rapid accumulation of wealth in the hands of land and money sharks, the startling increase in the number of mortgaged farms and exorbitant rate of interest, coupled with consequent high rents, secure the land and currency reformers a respectful hearing. Our factory acts are proof that the nation is willing to abolish child labor, and this clears the ground for free and compulsory education; the people are prepared to discuss all of these reforms without prejudice. They see and can understand that they have become necessary, but neither the people as a whole, or yet a large portion of them, have devoted any of their time to seek the true cause of the evils which they would legislate upon, and having failed in this respect the only remedy—to remove the cause—seems to them impracticable and utopian, and the men who advocate it, visionaries. In time, when experience will have taught them or their children that the measures which they now deem all important are mere palliatives in securing to labor all its rights, the nationalist or state socialist will also secure a hearing. The reason which prompts me to advocate these side issues is because public opinion is ripe for them and because they will strengthen labor in its struggle for supremacy with capital; this, however, does not imply that I or others like me lose sight of the great object for which we contend: the abolition of wage slavery. We simply take advantage of anything which, in any shape or form, will advance the well-being of the class to which we belong."

"Radical reforms, such as we demand, can only be obtained gradually," said Brown. "Society must be given time to adjust itself to new conditions if your reforms are to be permanent. History teaches us that the new social system which we wish to establish must be based upon the intelligence of the masses. If to-morrow the govern-

ing powers were to give us full control of the machinery of state, there would be a revolution inside of six months, simply because the people are not educated to appreciate the benefits of integral co-operation, or yet to correctly understand the evils of the system under which they live at present. Neither can this be altered by theorizing; it requires practical application of the remedies which society contends to be sufficient to settle the labor question to demonstrate their insufficiency. Show the free trader that free trade won't do it; the land reformer that the single tax don't go far enough; let the currency crank be disappointed along with him who can't see further than the regulating of the apprentice system or the adoption of the eight hour day. Pass factory acts, lien and liability acts, etc., all this will tend to enlighten the people and ameliorate their condition, but they will also understand by practical experience that neither one or the other, or yet all of them together, are a satisfactory settlement of the labor question. They are, however, steps in the right direction because they bring the question of labor's rights and labor's wrongs prominently before the public. They create discussions on subjects of greatest interest and importance to us, and go far toward the destruction of the hedge placed by capital around what are commonly called 'vested rights,' but in reality are entrenched wrongs, and which will have to be demolished before the people will secure their own."

"These are also my opinions," said Phil, and they will explain why I support each and everyone of the measures advanced, although I know them to be side issues."

BILL BLADES.

BRUTAL FORCE

AGAINST PLACID SUBMISSIVENESS.

(Written for the Echo by Cyrille Horsicot.)

The idea of violence, or the use of force shocks people only when coming from an unusual or obscure source. We become accustomed to the standing threat of a well-trained force of men taught brutality as a trade, and strangely enough our free spirits feel no insult, no sense of injustice. We know there are Gatling guns in the armory that will be turned upon us too if we do not act as please the powers that be; yet we are not horrified or shocked, that is, the most of us think nothing of it. Why? Because if we, the few, protest, we will be branded with the epithet of revolutionist by those who breed revolution among the masses by their unfair treatment in dealing with them. Yes, we producers should be all revolutionists, but not bloodthirsty revolutionists, as we see them too often everywhere in their sanguinary wars where they slaughter us poor wretches in order to get their nefarious end, just as they do now in Chili and other places in South America. Are not those unfortunate countries in a perpetual state of anarchy under the leadership of jaguars always eager to shed the blood of their fellow-creatures in order to get the power in their clutches, the treasure at their disposition, and a notoriety picked up and reddened in the blood of thousands of useful citizens? Now-a-days all the world over, there is a constant menace to the lives and liberties of workingmen, in every police station, in every camp where millions of men are sent to play at soldiering; in the armories filled to the door with guns. It broods like a heavy cloud over the fate of workingmen who dare dream of bettering their social condition. Yet who is shocked at the awful threats of capitalistic power? Who grows horrified at the menacing attitude of the "law" and its tools? Very few. We go on hugging our phantom of liberty with placid minds undismayed by all this array of systematized violence. The power and influence of wealth make their materialized threats respectable, most of the

governments, which exist only to protect property rights, don't care a farthing about the thousand victims who are slaughtered, burned, crushed and drowned every year in the act of producing the wealth from which the worshippers of mammon throw them a paltry sum in reward for their invaluable services, just as they will throw a dry bone to their greyhound after catching a fine piece of venison with which they entertain their friends in their feast of Lucullus. The producer has to acquiesce in this monopoly of force as in the monopoly of everything else. The capitalist naturally makes few "incendiary speeches." He does not shock people by saying what he will do, but the guns, bayonets, clubs and trained men are there just the same. Words are superfluous. The property-serving classes not only threaten our lives by these visible means of warfare, but they are constantly, by slower, less conspicuous methods actually taking our lives. The marble palaces of the rich are built on the crushed lives of miserable oilers; the very flesh and bones of defrauded children are worked into the cement and stones; the magnificent decorations scarce hide the tears of unhappy women whose toil-shortened lives made them possible. The hundreds of human beings sweltering in one tenement house that one may live in a mansion fit for the gods, drink in leath and disease with every breath they draw. In the mines, in the factories, mills and workshops human lives are offered a continual sacrifice to the greed of property. Yet the great public sees nothing in all this legalized injustice. But nature knows no man-made laws. Before the bar of common justice this universal robbery and murder of the innocents, respectable and legalized though it be, is as atrocious as hell, and a terrible day of retribution is sure to come sooner or later! But woe to a common person who dares to talk of force! not having the power to make his efforts toward throwing off his chains respectable, he is, of course, a bloodthirsty rafter. Some sycophant newspaper claiming to be "liberal" sorrowfully deprecates the fact that workingmen have ever resorted to violence to insure concessions. That is a shameless lie! "Lawless violence," they say, makes an arbitrary use of legal force, which often appears at the time heartless and cruel, a necessity. What would result if at any time dissatisfied men could at pleasure defy the law, destroy property and dictate terms to established authorities? What indeed? What would happen if men were allowed to think and act for themselves when their labor and lives are concerned? No matter if they are working fifteen hours a day, with scarcely enough time to eat a bit of bread, as is the case with bakers, under horrible conditions; no matter if their pay is barely sufficient to keep off starvation, no matter if their babies are forced into the terrible grind in order to keep body and soul together; no matter if their lives are but continued stories of privation, degradation, toil and poverty, if they will only keep still about it, it's all right. It is the groaning over their hurts that is criminal; if they only keep quiet they are very good sort of people, and everything can go on "smooth and even." Yes, they are allowed to wait till agitation, education and the ballot shall break their chains if they wait quietly. And be corpses or idiots by that time; no doubt they will be allowed to enjoy their freedom. A man hasn't much of an opportunity to use the ballot as it was not long ago, with a policeman's club poised over his head and threatening starvation from the "bosses" staring him in the face. Then is the time to act. Now is the time to prepare for such emergencies. Whoever believes in the workingman's right to defend whatever idea he may conceive of his rights with any equitable force he can command rather than to tamely submit to a degrading slavery believes in the temporal redemption of his fellow-creatures from the bondage of cruel and unholy pharisees. He who does not rank with humanity's bitterest foes.

Workingmen! throw aside your *esprit de parti* for which the cunning leaders make of you their puppet shows; select some practical men to make your laws, spurn the satanic press who poison your mind and encourage the labor papers in order to make them dailies instead of weeklies. If you do that the victory is yours before long; if not, then go down the slope until you reach the bottom of the ravine and become an easy prey to soulless vultures and vampires with human faces.

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